THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 955 *Tuesday, Dec.* 21, 1824. *Price* 1*d.*

Covent Garden Theatre.

Rowe's doleful Tragedy of *The Fair Penitent* was performed last night, on which occasion Mrs. Sloman appeared as *Calista*, Mr. Young, as *Horatio;* Mr. C. Kemble, as the gay *Lothario;* and Mr. Cooper, as *Altamont.* Mrs. Sloman has now, by her performance in several characters, shewn her full powers, and rendered the public thoroughly capable of judging of her talents. She is decidedly a clever actress, but still a *mere actress.* She understands her author in general, and is familiar with the treading of the stage, the folding and unfolding of the arms; the use of the *pocket-handkerchief* in expressing grief; the tones sepulchral that become her tears; and all the movements of the head and eyes that are commonly received as the indications of rage or joy, love or hatred: but when we have said this, we have said almost all that can be said in praise of her acting. Her great deficiency lies in a want of power to move the feelings in a high degree—the delineations of the soul are wanting, and nature is concealed by art. It is obvious, always, that she has studied well, but has not felt intensely. We know that there is a certain portion of success attendant, and justly so, upon such efforts as Mrs. Sloman's, but it is of a very limited description, and far, far below the triumphs of our Siddons or our O'Neil. Mr. C. Kemble acted *Lothario* with great spirit, and Mr. Young was exceedingly energetic in *Horatio. Altamont* was ably represented by Mr. Cooper—There was a good house.

Drury Lane Theatre.

Mr. Macready acted *Macbeth* last night, with very great success. Mrs. Bunn was the representative of *Lady Macbeth*, and performed it in her usual style. *The Family Fete*, and *The Miller's Maid*, followed. Mr. Sherwin acted *Giles* with some effect.—It is a character that requires very peculiar powers, and is hardly within the grasp of Mr. Sherwin.

The new *Pantomimes* for the Christmas holiday people, are announced; that of Drury Lane, under the title of "*Harlequin and the Talking Bird; or, the Singing Trees and Golden Waters;*" and that of Covent Garden, by the name of "*Harlequin and the Dragon of Wantley; or, Fire and Water.*"

THE OLYMPIC was last night well attended to see the laughable burlesque of *Frank-in-Steam; or, the Modern Promise to Pay.*

MISS FOOTE AND MR. HAYNE.—The action of Miss Foote against Mr. Hayne, is expected to come before the King's Bench to-day. We have seen no less than forty letters from Miss Foote to Mr. Hayne, of a very interesting description, which will be produced on the trial, to shew the grounds upon which Mr. Hayne broke off the match. Mr. Hayne, it is said, has commenced actions against two Sunday Papers for libels.—*Sunday Paper.*

We have copied the following article from the *John Bull* of Sunday last.

"THE AUTHOR" OF SIMPSON AND CO.

SIR,—While the coteries of Martlett's-court and Vinegar-yard are engaged in watching the progress of the "*guere de*————" now raging between a certain play-wright and the Governor General of Drury Lane, allow me to draw your attention, for a moment, to a point of some importance which you have accidentally overlooked.—Since the appearance of your last week's very amusing theatrical article, I have gone over the correspondence to which you therein allude; and, to my great surprise, I observe, that the Gentleman who received the *kick a posteriori* designates himself "JOHN POOLE, AUTHOR OF SIMPSON AND CO., and other popular pieces." Now, Sir, allow me to assure you, that the said Mr. JOHN POOLE is no more entitled to dub himself "AUTHOR OF SIMPSON AND CO." than a school-boy who should do into English a book of Virgil's immortal Epic, would have a right to call himself the author of the "Æniad." The Farce of "SIMPSON AND CO." is, Sir, a literal translation, from the first scene to the last, of M. PICARD's petite comedie, called "*Les Deux Menages,*" the first representation of which I witnessed at Paris, on the 21st of March, 1822, at the second Theatre Francais. Mr. POOLE has certainly changed the name of BORDECIEL into that of SIMPSON—that of DORSAL into BROMLEY—and so of the rest. His "authorship" I assure you, "hath this extent—no more." The same may be said of the rest of Mr. POOLE's "popular pieces," as he modestly styles them. His "*Married and Single*" is a verbatim translation of the "*Ci-devant Jeune Homme*:" and his "*Is he a Conjuror?*" of the "*Burgomestre de Saardam,*" performed at the French Theatre in Tottenham-street, last winter. It is not right that daws should strut about in borrowed plumage. To your known detestation of humbug, I confidently look for the insertion of this short letter, and for your exposure of a practice which (whatever Mr. POOLE may think to the contrary) is "more honoured in the *breach* than in the observance."—Your's, &c.

ANTI-HUMBUG.

Printed & Published by E. THOMAS, Denmark-court, Exeter-'change, Strand.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening (with Alterations) ROWLEY's Comedy of

A Woman never Vext;

Or, The Widow of Cornhill.

Foster, Mr YOUNG,
Henry the Sixth, King of England, Mr. BAKER,
Stephen Foster, Mr C. KEMBLE,
Walter Brown, Mr EGERTON, George, Mr HENRY
Sir Godfrey Speedwell, Mr BARTLEY,
Foster, Jun. Mr COOPER,
Clown, Mr BLANCHARD, Churchman, Mr EVANS,
Master Innocent Lambskin, Mr MEADOWS,
Richard, Mr HORREBOW, Sharpe, Mr MEARS,
Fleece, Mr NORRIS, Gauntlet, Mr LEY,
Host, Mr BARNES, Officer, Mr CLAREMONT,
Keeper of Ludgate, Mr ATKINS,
Jane, Miss JONES. Mrs Foster, Miss LACY,
Agnes Welsted, Miss CHESTER,

In act 5,

THE LORD MAYOR's SHOW,

As it passed through Cheapside in 1444.

The Comedy, and the Barber of Seville, are published, and may be had in the Theatre, & of Mr DOLBY, 17, Catherine-street.

After which, the Musical Entertainment, in 3 acts, called

The Barber of Seville

Count Almaviva, Mr JONES,
Figaro, Mr DURUSET, Basil, Mr J. ISAACS,
Doctor Bartolo, Mr FAWCETT,
Fiorello, Mr PEARMAN, Argus, Mr MEARS,
Tallboy, Mr HENRY, Notary, Mr Atkins,
Rosina, Miss M. TREE,
Marcellina, Mrs BOYLE.

To-morrow, Der Freischutz, and Clari.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, (18th time here) WEBER's Opera of

Der Freischutz.

Ottocar, Mr MERCER, Kilian, Mr KNIGHT,
Demon of the Hartz, Mr HOWELL,
Casper, Mr HORN, Zamiel, Mr O. SMITH, Hermit, Mr G. SMITH
Bernhard, Mr BEDFORD, Adolph, Mr T. COOKE,
Witch of the Glen, Mr BLANCHARD,
Foresters, Messrs. COMER, RANDALL, & YARNOLD,

Linda, Miss GRADDON, Rose, Miss POVEY.
Bridesmaids, Miss POOLE, Mrs TENNANT, & Miss BROWNE

SCENERY.

The Village of Hohenwald.—Interior of Forester's Lodge.—The Wolf's Hollow.—Incantation —Hall in the Jaggerhaus.—Interior of the Jaggerhaus.—The Valley of Hohenwald.—The Forest.

To conclude with, (9th time) an Operatic Farce, called

My Uncle Gabriel.

Lieut. Sutton, (an Officer on half-pay) Mr HORN,
Gabriel Omnium, (a testy Citizen) Mr GATTIE,
Scrip, (his Nephew, fonder of the battle than the Counting-house) Mr BEDFORD,
Tom Tacit. Landlord of the Horns Tavern, a pert, talkative little fellow) Mr KNIGHT,
Jack Ready, alias Peter Profile, alias Ben Bluster, otherwise Uncle Gabriel, Mr HARLEY.

Mrs T. [Landlady of the Horns Tavern] Mrs ORGER,
Eliza, [Niece to Omnium] Miss POVEY.

To-morrow, Guy Mannering, with My Uncle Gabriel.

EXHIBITIONS.

DIORAMA, Regent's Park, Two New Views—Chartres Cathedral, and Brest Harbour—Open Daily from Ten till Four o'Clock.

Mr. CROSS's Grand Collection of Wild Beasts—Exeter-'Change, Strand.

COSMORAMA, 209, Regent Street, Oxford Street—The present Selection of Views Possesses very great Classical Interest—Admission from 10 till 4.

Mr. FINN's FANCY GLASS-WORKING EXHIBITION, in Miniature. Displaying the whole Art of Modelling, Blowing, and Working---161, Strand.